Indo-Saudi Joint Venture Refinery

2958. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1195 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th July, 1996 and state:

(a) whether the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Saudi Arabian Minister are scheduled to hold bilateral discussions on matters of mutual cooperation, including the HPCL grass root refinery, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 3rd December, 1996;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the HPCL's new JV proposals pertaining to LPG infrastructure, the LNG terminal and the cost likely to be involved by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) A delegation from Saudi Arabia, led by the Minister of Petroleum & Mineral Wealth visited India from 3rd to 5th December, 1996 and held wide- ranging talks on possible areas of cooperation in Hydrocarbon sector, including the planned investment in the Punjab Refinery Project—a Joint Venture between HPCL and Saudi Aramco. It was agreed to hold regular consultation between high officials of concerned Ministries of both the countries to discuss the current status of cooperation and the development in the international oil market.

(c) HPCL's proposed new Joint Ventures pertaining to LPG infrastructure and LNG terminal are as follows:—

(i) A Joint Venture between HPCL and EXXON to jointly engage in a range of downstream petroleum activities like developing LPG infrastructure, LPG import facilities and LPG marketing facilities. The project is expected to cost about Rs. 300 crores and the equity participation by the partners will be 50% each and a debt-equity ratio of 2:1.

(ii) A Joint Venture between HPCL and TOTAL SA, France to jointly engage in a range of downstream petroleum activities. The project is expected to cost about Rs. 300 crores and the equity participation by the partners will be 50% each with a debt-equity ratio of 2:1.

(iii) A Joint Venture between HPCL and TOTAL SA, of France for building and operating a LNG terminal and supplies to power plant, in view of the increasing energy demand. The project is expected to cost about Rs. 1800 crores and the equity participation of 26% each, with a debt-equity ratio of 2:1.

Delay in Allotment of DDA Houses

2959. SHRI BHAGBAN MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay on the part of Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to allot houses to the applicants who register for houses under different schemes;

(b) whether the DDA is not able to get water and electricity connections installed in time;

(c) whether lapses on the part of DDA in these matter are causing inordinate delays in getting occupation of houses by the allottees; and

(d) if so, the immediate steps taken by the DDA in these matters, so that applicants and allottees do not face problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that as on 30.11.1996, there is a backlog of 29990 registrants under the New Pattern Registration Scheme, 1979 and 11161 under the Ambedkar Awas Yojana, 1989 (MIG and LIG Categories). The Number of registrants under these Schemes, to begin with, was 1,71,272 and 20,000 respectively. Under the Janta Housing Scheme, 1996, 3667 flats have been allotted. There is a backlog of 16333 registrants. The reasons for delay in the allotment of flats to registrants of NPRS 1979 & AAY 1989 are as under:—

(i) The Schemes were opened on All India basis and a large number of registrants got themselved registered.

(ii) There are constrants of availability of land, infrastructural facilities like electricity